

December 20, 2004

U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program

2004 Requests for Initial Proposals

Overview

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Regions 6, is soliciting grant and cooperative agreement initial proposals (IP's) for projects in the New Mexico-Texas-Chihuahua and Texas-Coahuila-Nuevo Leon-Tamaulipas Regional Workgroup areas that address the objectives of the U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program. The U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program is a binational collaborative effort whose mission is to protect the environment and public health in the U.S.-Mexico border region (100 kilometers either side of the U.S.-Mexico border) consistent with the principles of sustainable development. (For more information on the Border 2012 Program please visit our Web site at: www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder). This is an initial solicitation. This assistance will be awarded through the following authorities:

- Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3),
- Safe Drinking Water Act, Section 1442(b)(3),
- Solid Waste Disposal Act, Section 8001(a)
- Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3)
- Toxic Substances Control Act, Section 10(a)
- Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, Section 311(a)
- National Environmental Policy Act, Section 102
- Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, Section 20 (as amended)

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 66.931

Important Dates:

February 28, 2005 – Hard copy initial proposals must be postmarked and electronic copy received.

March 31, 2005 -- Initial approvals identified and sponsors of projects selected for funding will be requested to submit a formal application package. Schedule may be modified based on the level of response.

April 29, 2005 -- Grant application and workplan must be submitted to EPA.

May 31, 2005 -- Awards made

Contents of Full Text Announcement:

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U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program:

2004 Requests for Proposals

Full Text Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

With the active participation of the ten U.S.-Mexico border states and U.S. tribal governments, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Mexico's Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Mexican Secretariat of Health and other federal agencies have developed the Border 2012 program to protect the environment and the public's health in the U.S.-Mexico border region.

The ten-year Border 2012 program emphasizes a bottom-up, regional approach, anticipating that local decision-making, priority-setting, and project implementation will best address environmental issues in the border region. The program brings together a wide variety of stakeholders to produce prioritized and sustained actions that consider the environmental needs of the different border communities.

The purpose of this grant program is to provide funding for projects which will further the objectives of the U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program. The Border 2012 goals and objectives are listed below.

- **Goal #1: Reduce Water Contamination**

Objective #1: By 2012, promote a 25 percent increase in the number of homes connected to potable water supply and wastewater collection and treatment systems.

Objective #2: By 2012, assess significant shared and transboundary surface waters and achieve a majority of water quality standards currently being exceeded in those waters.

Objective #3: By 2006, implement a monitoring system for evaluating coastal water quality at the international border beaches. By the end of 2006, establish a 2012 objective toward meeting coastal water quality standards of both countries.

Objective #4: By 2005, promote the assessment of water system conditions in 10 percent of the existing water systems in the border cities to identify opportunities for improvement in overall water system efficiencies.

- **Goal #2: Reduce Air Pollution**

Objective #1: By 2012 or sooner, reduce air emissions as much as possible toward attainment of respective national ambient air quality standards, and reduce exposure in the border region, as supported by the following interim objectives.

Interim Objective #1: By 2003, define baseline and alternative scenarios for emissions reductions along the border, and their impacts on air quality.

Interim Objective #2: By 2004, based on results from interim objective 1, define specific emission reductions strategies and air quality and exposure objectives to be achieved by 2012.

• **Goal #3: Land Contamination**

Objective #1: By 2004, identify needs and develop an action plan to improve institutional and infrastructure capacity for waste management and pollution prevention as they pertain to hazardous and solid waste and toxic substances along the U.S.-Mexico border. Starting in 2005, the plan will be implemented and concluded by 2012.

Objective #2: By 2004, evaluate the hazardous waste tracking systems in the United States and Mexico. During the year 2006, develop and consolidate the link between both tracking systems.

Objective #3: By 2010, clean up three of the largest sites that contain abandoned waste tires in the U.S.-Mexico border region, based on policies and programs developed in partnership with local governments.

Objective #4: By 2004, develop a binational policy of clean-up and restoration resulting in the productive use of abandoned sites contaminated with hazardous waste or materials, along the length of the border, in accordance with the laws of each country. By 2006, apply this policy at least once in each of the four geographic regions.

• **Goal #4: Improve Environmental Health**

Objective #1-Air: By 2006, evaluate various measures of respiratory health in children that might be tracked to assess changes that may result from actions to improve air quality in border communities.

Objective #2-Water: By 2006, evaluate various measures of gastrointestinal illness that might be tracked to assess changes that may result from actions to improve water quality in border communities.

Objective #3A-Pesticides: By 2006, an assessment and pilot program will be completed that explores the feasibility of harmonizing a binational system for reporting acute pesticide poisonings.

Objective #3B-Pesticides: By 2007, reduce pesticide exposure by training 36,000 farm workers on pesticide risks and safe handling, including ways to minimize exposure for families and

children.

Objective #4A-Capacity Building: By 2006, establish a “distance-learning”, post-graduate degree program to support advanced training on environmental health in conjunction with Pan American Health Organization regional offices and academic institutions.

Objective #4B-Capacity Building: By 2004, extend current efforts in binational environmental health training for 100 health care providers each for pesticides and water.

• Goal #5: Reduce Exposure to Chemicals as a Result of Accidental Chemical Releases and/or Acts of Terrorism

Objective #1: By 2004, a chemical emergency advisory/notification mechanism between Mexico and the United States will be clearly established.

Objective #2: By 2008, joint contingency plans for all 14 pairs of sister cities will be in place and operating (including exercise), with the establishment of binational committees for chemical emergency prevention (or similar border forums).

Objective #3: By 2012, 50 percent of sister city joint contingency plans will be supplemented with preparedness and prevention related efforts, such as risk and consequence analysis, risk reduction, and counter-terrorism.

• Goal #6: Improve Environmental Performance Through Compliance, Enforcement, Pollution Prevention, and Promotion of Environmental Stewardship

Objective #1: By 2006, increase by 50 percent the number of industries along the U.S.-Mexico border implementing voluntary compliance and/or self-audits (such as the development of an Environmental Management System (EMS) or participation in voluntary assessment programs), using 2003 as a baseline year.

Objective #2: By 2006, determine the pollution sources in the border area that present high risks to human health and the environment that are subject to regulation and set priorities for actions to lower the risk.

Objective #3: By 2012, increase compliance in the priority areas determined in Objective 2 by assisting and responding to citizen complaints, compliance assistance, compliance incentives, compliance monitoring, and enforcement to reduce the risks from non-compliant facilities and encourage voluntary pollution prevention.

More information about the objectives of the U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program can be found at our website at <http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder>. **Initial proposals must address at least one of the objectives listed above.**

The EPA is especially interested in receiving initial proposals that address one or more of the priority areas listed below. Such initial proposals will receive greater weight in the evaluation of

the grants.

PRIORITY AREAS

NEW MEXICO-TEXAS-CHIHUAHUA —Priority Areas

Water

- Identification of database gaps and data comparability issues, especially in establishing baseline data on water quality and quantity in the watersheds.
- Assessment and characterization of water bodies, using collected data from federal, state, and local entities. Promote the sharing of data and its harmonization.
- Assistance to low income communities with the development of low cost potable water supply and wastewater treatment infrastructure. Priority would be given to projects which assist self-help efforts.
- Reduce pollution to water bodies from point and non-point sources.
- Promote water conservation projects, especially as they are related to environmental education.
- Implement, assess and identify opportunities for improvement in overall water system efficiencies for municipal, agricultural (irrigation efficiencies), and/or watershed (point and non-point sources) improvements .
- Promote binational sharing of information of transboundary groundwater resources that address both water quantity and quality.
- Promote improved irrigation efficiency and conservation of water for ecosystem improvements.
- Promote the understanding of ways to reduce organic and inorganic loads on domestic water discharges.
- Address transboundary water quality and quantity issues resulting from invasive species in the Rio Grande.

Air

- Support of local governments to develop an improved method of collecting and sharing air emissions inventories to promote emissions trading.
- Establish projects to improve air quality in the rural areas by addressing one or more of the following: windblown dust from unpaved roads; cleared land, dried cattle fecal matter; burning of trash; burning of medical waste; tire fires.
- Develop necessary networks of air quality monitors to establish baseline air quality conditions and track progress toward meeting air quality standards.
- Develop binational networks of air quality monitors to establish baseline air quality conditions and track progress toward meeting air quality standards in rural areas.
- Promote reduction of emissions from diesel engines and high emitting vehicles.

Hazardous and Solid Waste (Land)

- Conduct field demonstrations to develop capacity for road paving, embankment, and other waste tire reuse applications through participation with industrial and government organizations in border sister cities.
- Implement demonstration project for the binational clean-up and restoration resulting in the productive use of abandoned sites contaminated with hazardous waste materials.
- Develop an inventory of contaminated abandoned sites and develop a GIS map with locations and brownfield profile data utilizing criteria from the US Brownfield programs.
- Assist in jump-start a local hazardous waste tracking program in sister cities.
- Reduce solid waste illegal dumping by assessing the lack of service, establish a plan of pick up locations and disposal, encourage environmental stewardship through education and outreach, and/or implementation of recycling programs particularly in Colonias and/or rural areas.
- Promotion of viable options for biosolid stabilization and utilization.

Environmental Health

- Employ and/or supplement existing data/data bases to demonstrate linkages between environmental quality and health conditions in the border region.
- Evaluate various measures of gastrointestinal illness that might be tracked to assess changes that may result from actions to improve water quality.
- Develop a binational gastrointestinal disease-tracking network that is compatible to current binational disease tracking.
- Promote technology transfer of best practices to reduce pesticide exposure, cross training and information sharing.
- Develop binational programs for lead education that will include environmental exposure routes.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

- Update sister-city plans and provide an opportunity for information exchange and recommendations among first responders.
- Reduce exposure to chemicals as a result of accidental chemical releases and/or acts of terrorism by, for example, providing training to local first responders.
- Assist in the implementation in the binational exercises to test and improve the Sister City Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan.
- Conduct risk analysis of hazardous chemicals and terrorism.

Cooperative Enforcement and Compliance Assistance

- Establish baseline of industries implementing voluntary compliance and self audits.
- Identification of warehouse facilities containing hazardous materials and/or waste, particularly at ports of entry, including environmental audits for small and medium businesses.

- Develop incentives to encourage voluntary compliance and pollution prevention practices.
- Develop common or harmonized strategies for voluntary compliance programs in both sides of the border that address specifically small businesses.

Environmental Education/Community Based Projects

- Employ and/or supplement existing data/data bases (to include academia, government, industry, private sector, non government organization and media.) that will provide new and updated information on environmental education resources.
- Capacity building training and/or workshops for teachers and educators on effectively using field trips or hands-on programs for learning, and which also focus on key border environmental issues such as environmental health, water quality and/or pollution prevention.
- Design, implement and evaluate a capacity building program in the area of environmental education that addresses the priority areas described in the above mentioned priority areas such as water, air, waste, environmental health, emergency response and preparedness, and cooperative enforcement and compliance assistance.
- Education to reduce loss of unique ecological values (e.g., Janos grasslands, wildlife corridors, biodiversity) from inefficient use of natural resources (e.g., water, land use changes, invasive species.)
- Air Quality-Indoor/Outdoor-School programs, community awareness
- Promote programs on the education and training on basic hygiene concepts-hand washing, boiling water, etc.
- Ensure success of the Border 2012 program through support, technical assistance, and guidance that address all coordinating bodies of the program, and among all Border 2012 partners.

TEXAS-COAHUILA-NUEVO LEON-TAMAULIPAS —Priority Areas

Water

- Identification of database gaps, especially in establishing baseline data on water quality and quantity in the watersheds.
- Assessment and characterization of water bodies, using collected data from federal, state, and local entities. Promote the sharing of data and its harmonization.
- Assistance to low income communities with the development of low cost potable water supply and wastewater treatment infrastructure. Priority would be given to projects which assist self-help efforts.
- Reduce pollution to water bodies from point and non-point sources.
- Promote water conservation projects, especially as they are related to environmental education.
- Implement, assess and identify opportunities for improvement in overall water system efficiencies.

Air

- Support of local governments to develop an improved method of collecting and sharing air emissions inventories.
- Establish air emission inventories to ensure the capture not only of particulate matter but also toxics, particularly from refineries in Monterrey and Reynosa.
- Determine the air pollutants posing the greatest risks in specific geographic regions, and the environmental projects that will yield the greatest health risk reduction benefits.
- Establish smoke reduction strategies and reduction of particulate emissions such as from agricultural burning, trash burning, road dust, tire pile fires, and similar sources.
- Reduce emissions from diesel engines and high emitting vehicles.

Hazardous and Solid Waste (Land)

- Conduct field demonstrations to develop capacity for road paving, embankment, and other waste tire reuse applications through participation with industrial and government organizations, especially in the sister cities of /Reynosa, /Matamoros, /Piedras Negras and /Ciudad Acuna..
- Implement demonstration project for the binational clean-up and restoration resulting in the productive use of abandoned sites contaminated with hazardous waste materials.
- Encourage environmental stewardship through community outreach and implementation of community organized solid waste cleanup and recycling events that can be held at least annually.

Environmental Health

- Employ and/or supplement existing data/data bases to demonstrate linkages between environmental quality and health conditions in the border region.
- Assist local health agencies to evaluate various measures of gastrointestinal illness that might be tracked to assess changes that may result from actions to improve water quality.
- Promote technology transfer of best practices to reduce pesticide exposure, cross training and information sharing.
- Develop binational programs for lead education that will include environmental exposure routes.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

- Update sister-city plans and provide an opportunity for information exchange and recommendations among first responders.
- Reduce exposure to chemicals as a result of accidental chemical releases and/or acts of terrorism by, for example, providing training to local first responders.
- Projects that assist in the binational exercises to test and improve the Sister City Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan
- Conduct risk analysis of hazardous chemicals and terrorism.

Cooperative Enforcement and Compliance Assistance

- Establish baseline of industries implementing voluntary compliance and self audits.
- Identify warehouse facilities containing hazardous materials and/or waste, particularly at ports of entry, including environmental audits for small and medium businesses.
- Determine the sources of environmental hazards associated with high levels of oil and natural exploration and/or production such as for example at Cuenca de Burgos.
- Develop incentives to encourage voluntary compliance and pollution prevention practices.

Environmental Education/Community Based Projects

- Employ and/or supplement existing data/data bases (to include academia, government, industry, private sector, non government organization and media.) that will provide new and updated information on environmental education resources.
- Capacity building training and/or workshops for teachers and educators on effectively using field trips or hands-on programs for learning, and which also focus on key border environmental issues such as environmental health, water quality and/or pollution prevention.
- Design, implement and evaluate a capacity building program in the area of environmental education that addresses the priority areas described in the above mentioned priority areas such as water, air, waste, environmental health, emergency response and preparedness, and cooperative enforcement and compliance assistance.
- Ensure success of the Border 2012 program through support, technical assistance, and guidance that address all coordinating bodies of the program, and among all Border 2012 partners.

Projects that address the above priorities will receive greater weight in the evaluation process (see V. Initial Proposal Review Information below).

EPA will be awarding grants in this solicitation using the following statutory authorities:

- Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3): conduct and promote research investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution.
 - Safe Drinking Water Act, Section 1442(b)(3): develop, expand, or carry out a program (that may combine training, education, and employment) for occupations relating to the public health aspects of providing safe drinking water.
 - Solid Waste Disposal Act, Section 8001(a): conduct and promote the coordination of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys, public education programs and studies relating to solid waste.
 - Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3): conduct and promote the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects (including health and welfare effects), extent, prevention, and control of air pollution.
 - Toxic Substances Control Act, Section 10(a): conduct research, development of monitoring activities on toxic substances.
- Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, Section 311(a): conduct basic research and training related to the detection, assessment, and evaluation of the risks and human effects of exposure to hazardous substances.

- National Environmental Policy Act, Section 102 (f): where consistent with the foreign policy of the United States, lend appropriate support to initiatives, resolutions, and programs designed to maximize international cooperation in anticipating and preventing a decline in the quality of mankind's world environment;
- Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, Section 20 (as amended): research by grant or contract with other Federal agencies, universities, or others.

II. Award Information

EPA Region 6 intends to award an estimated \$1.4M to eligible applicants through assistance agreements ranging in size up to \$100,000. Individual awards will not exceed two tiers of funding: Tier 1 - Up to \$30,000 and Tier 2 – between \$30,001-\$100,000. We anticipate that a limited number of Tier 2 projects will be funded. Multi-year (2-3 year) Tier 1 and Tier 2 proposals will be accepted. From the initial proposals received, EPA estimates that approximately 15-18 initial proposals may be selected to submit full applications.

For cooperative agreements, EPA expects to have substantial involvement in the implementation of the agreement. This includes routine communication with the applicant and input into major decision made during the period of the cooperative agreement.

III. Eligibility Information

Organizations that are eligible to apply are:

- border state governments,
- multi-state/tribal organizations,
- colleges and universities,
- local governments, and
- non-governmental organizations
- international organizations (in the border region of either the United States or Mexico)

Preference will be given to those organizations located in the United States border region (100km north of the U.S.-Mexico border).

These entities are strongly encouraged to partner with relevant Mexican border organizations, also preferably located in the Mexican border region (100km north of the U.S.-Mexico border).

Organizations may submit multiple proposals. Applicants must demonstrate that a proposed project can commence within a 3-6 months of award.

Please note that research is ineligible for funding, as well as other ineligible costs outlined in 40 CFR Parts 30 and 31.

All initial proposals must be e-mailed to EPA Region 6 (weber.gina@epa.gov) AND a hard copy must be mailed to Gina Weber, U.S.-Mexico Border Coordinator (6PD), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200, Dallas, TX 75202.

The initial proposal must specify that there will be at least a five per cent match for grants/cooperative agreements, including in-kind contributions. Funding from other federal grants may not be used to meet this match requirement.

Recipients can be reimbursed for pre-award costs provided that the costs are included in the application and the costs meet the definition of pre-award costs. Recipients incur pre-award costs at their own risk.

Ineligible costs are outlined in 40 CFR Parts 30 & 31, including construction and in OMB Circulars A-21 (Educational Institutions), A-87 (Governments), and A-122 (Non-profit Organizations)

Eligibility Criteria

- Initial proposals must be from an eligible organization.
- Initial Proposals must address a bi-national or transboundary issue and meet the goals and objectives of Border 2012.
- Initial proposals must be submitted on time.
- Projects must be able to start within 3-6 months of award.

IV. Initial Proposal Submission Information

Initial proposals must be limited to three pages. Full application packages will not be considered. It is recommended that confidential information not be included in the initial proposal.

The following format should be used for all Initial Proposals:

1. Applicant's name, primary contacts, address, phone and fax numbers, and e-mail (if available).
2. Project Title
3. Background information about lead organization, and other participants/partners.
4. Summary of the project.
5. Project goals and objectives:
 - What will you achieve?
 - What environmental or human health issue will be addressed?
 - What will the project impact be?
 - Who will the project benefit?
6. Project Results
 - What will be the project results?
 - How will the results be measured?
7. Description of tasks to implement project

8. Project time-line (provide an overall schedule, lasting no more than 18 months).
9. Estimated project budget (show estimates for personnel, travel, supplies, etc.), including breakout of EPA funding, cost share, and any other sources of funding.

Please send three copies of the Initial Proposals to:

Gina Weber
U.S.-Mexico Border Coordinator (6PD)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202

Initial Proposals must be post-marked by FEBRUARY 28, 2005.

AND

Please e-mail one copy to: weber.gina@epa.gov. **E-mailed Initial Proposals also must be received by February 28, 2005.**

Only initial proposals which have been received by e-mail AND by mail will be considered.

V. Initial Proposal Review Information

EPA Region 6 will award U.S.-Mexico Border grants on a competitive basis/and will evaluate initial proposals based on the following criteria:

A. Project Description (15 points)

Does the proposal incorporate the use of Border 2012 tools? (See

<http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder/intro.htm#tools> for list of Border 2012 tools)

- Does the proposal present a clear description of priority environmental problems or issues to be addressed?
- Does the proposal address a binational/transboundary environmental issue?
- Are the goals and tasks clear and concise? Are the tasks, budget, time line etc. realistic?
- Does the applicant demonstrate that the proposed project can commence within 3-6 months?
- Does the proposal include a Mexican partner?
- Does the proposal include sharing progress with the relevant task force(s) and Regional Work Group(s)
- Does the proposal include a well-conceived strategy to achieve those goals and objectives?
- Are project participants well qualified to conduct the proposed project and have a demonstrated record of success in their previous work in the border region and/or related areas?

B. Project Objective/Goals (40 points)

- How well does the proposal contribute to achieving one or more of the objectives listed in the Border 2012 framework?
- Does the proposal specify realistic goals and objectives that deal with the environmental problems or issues identified?
- Does it address more than one specific objective?
- Does the project address any of the priority areas listed in Section I of this announcement?

C. Project Benefits (25 points)

- Does the project take a creative, innovative approach and/or implement successful models from other areas?
- Does the proposal identify synergy and/or coordination with ongoing efforts conducted by local, state, federal agencies, Border 2012 task force(s), Border 2012 Workgroup(s) and (or other organizations) on the border?
- Does the project's scope and budget make effective and judicious use of the requested federal grant funds? Does it leverage other public or private resources, including in-kind contributions?
- Will the project deliverables be transferable or useful to others?

D. Measurability of Project Results (20 points)

- Can the project results be clearly identified?
- Does the project contain clear measures of environmental improvement?
- Measures of success should be either measures of environmental improvement, or should be directly linked to such measures. EPA will look for quantitative and qualitative measurability in the following areas:
- Will the project lead to measurable environmental improvements?
- How/when will measurable products and results be available?
- How does the project impact public perception and behavior to achieve beneficial environmental results?

The initial proposals will be evaluated by EPA staff and by Regional Workgroup Co-chairs or their staff for the New Mexico-Texas-Chihuahua and Texas-Coahuila-Nuevo Leon-Tamaulipas Workgroups. Final selection will be made by the Deputy Regional Administrator, EPA Region 6. Selected organizations will be notified and requested to submit a full application. The projects selected will reflect geographic distribution between the border regions of New Mexico-Texas-Chihuahua and Texas-Coahuila-Nuevo Leon-Tamaulipas and between the several media (air, water, waste, enforcement, emergency response, and environmental education).

VI. Award Administration

Initial proposals that are selected for continuance in the process will be sent an application kit for funding. These recipients will be invited to submit a detailed work plan and the completed

application for funding. Receipt of an application kit is not a guarantee of funding. Deadlines must be met and the work plan must be approved by the EPA Project Officer for funding to occur.

Regulations governing the award and administration of Water Quality Cooperative Agreements are as follows: 40 CFR part 30 (for institutions of higher learning, hospitals, and other non-profit organizations) and 40 CFR part (for States, local governments, and interstate agencies).

Project Status Reports and Financial Status Reports will be required. Project Status Reports should describe project activities and provide the EPA Project Officer with information about project development. The Financial Status Report must accurately account for all federal funds expended and identify appropriate use of federal funds.

When possible, grantee must share information of their progress at appropriate Border 2012 Task Force meetings and at appropriate Border 2012 Regional Workgroup meetings, or send such information to the Co-Leaders of such Task Force(s).

Disputes: Procedures at 40 CFR 30.63 and 40 CFR 31.70 will apply.

Confidentiality: Applicants must clearly mark information they consider confidential and EPA will make confidentiality decisions in accordance with Agency Regulations at 40 CFR, Part 2, Subpart B.

EPA Reserves the right to reject all proposals and to not make any awards.

VII. Agency Contacts

For additional information, please contact in the New Mexico-Texas-Chihuahua border region:

Norma L.Duran, Ph.D.
U.S. EPA Border Office
4050 Rio Bravo, Suite 100
El Paso, TX 79902
915-533-7273
1800-334-0741
or e-mail at duan.norma@epa.gov

For additional information, please contact in the Texas-Coahuila-Nuevo Leon-Tamaulipas border region:

Gina Weber
U.S.-Mexico Border Coordinator (6PD)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202
(214) 665-8188
1800-887-6063
or e-mail at weber.gina@epa.gov

VII. Other Information

Previous Border Grant Program:

This grant program is an on-going program with the latest solicitation occurring in September 2003. A summary of grants selected for that program are listed below in Table 1.

Table 1
Region 6 Border Grants Awarded in 2004

Grantee	Grant Title
Centro Frank M.. Tejeda	Operator Training & Assessment of Water Plants in the Border Mexican State of Tamaulipas
Border Environmental Health Coalition	Prevention of Groundwater Contamination from Septic Tank Sources in the Border Region NM-Chihuahua
Border Environmental Health Coalition, Inc.	Pesticide Safety Education Project

County of Luna	Feasibility Study of constructed & Natural Wetlands for Wastewater Treatment & Wildlife Habitat
City of Brownsville	Non point source pollution prevention training for supervisors and small business operators
City of Brownsville	Non-point source PP training for Municipal Supervisors & small business operators
City of Brownsville	Environmental Management Systems - Training the Trainer
UT Austin	Evaluation of Infrastructure Impacts on Rio Grande River Water Quality
UT Austin	Managing used oil in the El Paso
Centro de Salud	Safe Drinking Water
NMSU	Completion of the Rio Conchos Decision Support System (RCDSS)
Dept. of Health & Human Services IPA researcher	Effects of Diesel Exposure & Traffic Related Air Pollution on Asthmatic Children in Ciudad Juarez*
Dept. of Civil & Environmental Engineering TX A&M of Kingsville, TX	Reducing Emissions of PM2.5 & Ozone precursors from US Mexico Border Industries using Principles of Industrial Ecology
TX A&M University of Kingsville, TX	Integrated Binational Atmospheric Emission Database
Texas A&M System Health Science Center School of Rural Public Health	Measure & Reduce Childhood Exposure to pesticides in the TX/MX Border Region
Mature Diversity	Lower Mimbres Valley Air Quality Plan
PAHO, FEMAP & WTRPC	U.S./Mexico Border 2012 Program Tracking Network for Environmentally Related Diseases Paso del Norte Region
El Paso Solar Energy Association	Motor Oil recycling & education in Montana Vista colonias project
City of Presidio	Solid Waste Disposal
South Central Solid Waste Authority	South Central Solid Waste Authority
Planning & Community Development	Feasibility for a Crumb Facility in the Lower Rio Grande Valley
Ysleta del Sur Pueblo	Border Tribe Household Hazardous Waste Reduction
City of Laredo Health Dept.	Environmental Health prevention & intervention
El Paso Fire Department	Haz-Mat Tech training
TCEQ	Improving Env. performance along the US/Mexico border through PP, Env. Stewardship & Partnerships
TCEQ	Ensuring Success of the Border 2012 Program Through Support, Technical Assistance & Guidance
City of Laredo Environmental Services Dept.	Los Dos Laredos Early Childhood Education Program
National Wildlife Federation	Environmental Education
NMED	Evaluate Emergency Response Capabilities of Sister Cities in the Region
NMED	Ensuring Success of the Border 2012 Program Through Support, Technical Assistance & Guidance

* Project Funding is Pending Final Review of Proposal and Approval by EPA

Border 2012 Contacts for the New Mexico-Texas-Chihuahua and Texas-Coahuila-Nuevo Leon-Tamaulipas Regional Workgroups

New Mexico-Texas-Chihuahua State Regional Work Group Co-Chairs

	Name	Organization	Phone	Email	Support Staff	Phone
U.S. Federal	Sam Coleman, Director, Superfund	EPA	214-665-6701	Coleman.sam@epa.gov	Norma Durán Duran.norma@epa.gov	915-533-7273
U.S. State	Ron Curry, Secretary	NMED	505-827-2855	Ron_curry@nmenv.state.nm.us	Gedi Cibas Gedi_cibas@nmenv.state.nm.us	505-827-2176
Mexico Federal	Ing. José C. Treviño	SEMARNAT	011-52-614-442-1501	jctrevino@chihuahua.semarnat.gob.mx	Thlie Carlos tecnico@chihuahua.semarnat.gob.mx Gpe. Ramirez Maldonado proteccion@chihuahua.semarnat.gob.mx	011-52-614-442-1502 011-52-614-442-1516
Chih.Mexico State	Lic. Victor Valencia de Los Santos, Secretario	SEDUE	011-52-614-415-7514	vvalencia@buzon.chihuahua.gob.mx	Leticia Fierro lefierro@buson.chihuahua.gob.mx	

1. Representatives of U.S. State who will be serving as Co-Chair in two years:

	Name	Organization	Phone	Email	Support Staff	Phone	Email
U.S. State	Ralph Marquez, Commissioner	TCEQ	512-239-5515	rmarquez@tceq.state.tx.us	Diana Borja/ Steve Niemeyer	512-239-3603 512-239-3606	dborja@tceq.state.tx.us sniemeye@tceq.state.tx.us
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Prospective applicants are encouraged to attend Border 2012 Task Force Meetings, and discuss the project proposals with the Co-Leaders of these Task Forces. Meetings are posted at least 30 days in advance on our website at <http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder>.

For more information about time and location of these and other Task Force meetings, please go to EPA's U.S.-Mexico Border Website (<http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder>).

Applicable Regulations

Applicable Regulations and Circulars

States and local governments: 40 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR), Part 31

Tribal Governments will follow Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A–87

Institutions of Higher Education and Non-Profits: 40 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR), Part 30

Confidentiality

Applicants must clearly mark information they consider confidential and EPA will make final confidentiality decisions in accordance with Agency Regulations at 40 CFR. Part 2, Subpart B

Use Restrictions

Assistance will be targeted to applicants that have demonstrated capability to successfully carry out Federal grant programs.

Web Resources

A complete description of the U.S. Mexico Border 2012 Program can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder>.

EPA Obligations

EPA is not obligated to make any award as a result of this announcement. EPA is not obligated to make awards for the amount of indicated funding.

Measurement of Environmental Results

Why Measure?

Measurement determines if a project is achieving program results and ensures resources are being used wisely. Measurement shows the effects of your project on your community and the environment. Congress requires EPA to provide detailed information on environmental results attributable to EPA programs and grants. EPA has identified three types of measures to gauge the success of a project. These measures include activities, outcomes, and impacts. Competitive proposals may address measurement results through all three types of measurement.

How do I Measure the Right Thing?

The key to measurement is that measurements only have meaning in relation to the question(s) they seek to answer. It is vital to have a clear picture of the objectives and goals of the project before any measurement activity takes place. Ask yourself a few key questions when determining what to measure:

- What are the specific issues to be addressed through this project?
- What do I already know about these issues?
- How will I know if I have achieved my goals?
- How will I know if my program is having an impact?

Once you answer these types of questions, you are ready to determine how to gather your data.

How and What do I Measure?

Activities (or Output Measures): Output measures include important activities, work products, or actions taken during the project. Examples include:

- Number of increased connections to wastewater collection and treatment systems
- Number and locations of waters assessed
- Numbers of farm workers trained on pesticide risks and safe handling

Outcomes (or Outcome Measures): Outcomes include the things that changed or were modified as a result of your activities. Examples include:

- Improved tracking of hazardous wastes
- Increase in number of industries adopting/implementing EMS
- Clearly established chemical emergency advisory/notification mechanism
- Emission reduction strategies developed

Impacts (or environmental and public health indicators): Impacts are measures of specific environmental and human health improvements in a defined area. These indicators help measure what impacts the project is having on environmental problems in your project area. Some examples include:

- Amount of solid waste reduced
- Amount of scrap tires diverted for re-use/recycling (and valuation as a commodity)
- Amount of improvement in public water systems

Ideally, these metrics can be extended to their corresponding environmental results (air pollution reduced, CO₂ reduced, etc.). There are common multipliers available or you can create your own from data specific to your project.

When do I Measure?

Measurement is most helpful at key stages of a project's life span: project planning, project implementation, and project completion.

Planning stage: Baseline information is gathered, objectives are established, and the audience of the project is characterized.

Implementation stage: Progress is tracked to determine if mid–course correction of the project is necessary. Milestones are examined.

Completion stage: Determine if goals were achieved, what worked well, next steps, and future modifications.

Why do I need to Gather baseline data?

Without gathering preliminary data on current conditions, it is impossible to see any distinct change or to determine if any results were made specifically as a result of the project. Baseline data describes the existing situation, provides relevance to the data you collect, and allows comparisons to be done before and after a project to determine its successes and failures.

What will this cost?

Generally, between 5% – 15% of your total budget should be allocated to pay for measurement. These costs should not be included as a line item in your budget projections but should be reflected in your workplan.